

Hunt-Hosmer House
On the north side of Lowell Road
past Liberty Street
Concord
Middlesex County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MA-820

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MA-820

HUNT-HOSMER HOUSE

Location: On the north side of Lowell Road past Liberty Street, Concord, Middlesex County, Massachusetts.

Present Owner: Thomas K. Sherwood

Present Use: Residence

Significance: This structure is thought to include part of one of two houses belonging to Samuel Hunt in 1672. The ell was added to the house in 1802. Architecturally, it is typical of most of the early farm houses in this locale; a wooden frame building with a clapboarded exterior, unequal gable roof and a central brick chimney.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. A large L-shaped wooden frame building, generally post and girt system. The house is divided into a typical rectangular 17th century-18th century plan with central fireplaces and symmetrical rooms and a two story 18th century ell.
2. Condition of fabric: Excellently maintained. The 17th-18th century portion of house extensively modified by 19th century and 20th century revisions.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. An L-shaped, wooden farm house set back from Lowell Road in a small clearing behind a large tree.
2. Foundations: Stone rubble foundation walls and chimney foundation. Stone foundation wall under ell. Miscellaneous stone piers.
3. Wall construction: Wooden post and girt system in oldest part of house, covered with wooden clapboards (about 4" weather), horizontally lapped, butt jointed, over sheathing; clapboard not original. Modified post and girt in 1802 ell.

4. Openings:

- a. Doors: Original doorway remodeled circa 1800 to accomodate ell addition, entrance into corner "dingle" and vestibule. East door not original.
- b. Windows: Twelve-over-twelve light sash, four-over-four light sash in attic of main house; nine-over-nine in ell.

5. Roof:

a. Main house:

- 1. Shape: Unequal gable caused by addition of kitchen shed or lean-to.
- 2. Covering: Composition shingle
- 3. Cornice and eaves: Boxed eaves, simple wooden cornice. Wooden gutter, metal downspouts.

6. Ell (1802)

- 1. Shape: Gable
- 2. Covering: Composition shingles.
- 3. Cornice and eaves: Boxed eaves and simple wooden cornice, wooden gutters and metal downspouts.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan:

- a. Basement: Full basement under right half of main house only. Expansion obstructed by bed rock, Crawl space under remainder.
- b. First floor: Entry into corner vestibule between main house and ell, at center of main house into ell and right to hall into dining room and stairs in front of chimney. Modern closet blocks passage between dining room right, parlor left, Kitchen, basement and back stairs to second floor behind the two rooms in main house. Wooden stud, remodeled with second-hand beams, access from parlor.
- c. Second floor: Front stair and hall. One room and bath over dining room and basement stair, back stairs and kitchen loft with access to attic of main house and ell. Two rooms and bath in ell and over parlor.

2. Stairways: Front stair off hall in front of central stairway. Left hand stair, boxed stringer, six winders, square newels, and square balusters. Simple rail. Dowel joints. Basement stairs appear to be in original location as are back stairs.
3. Flooring: Wooden boards 4"-18" wide painted, varnish appears to be very old. Some modern ceramic tile and composition floor covering.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: In general walls are plastered and painted or covered with paper. Considerable amounts of new and old vertical wainscot (feathered edge with quarter rounds).
5. Trim: Good corner cabinet in dining room: Considerable amount of new work. Simple mantel on 1802 fireplace in ell has deep cornice, decorated entablature with fluted panels.
6. Hardware: Miscellaneous thumb latches, strap and H and HL hinges. None of outstanding quality.
7. Lighting: None of importance. Modern electric system added 1920.
8. Heating: Fireplace in old parlor has cooking fireplace with crane and oven. (Has interesting iron door). Modern hot water heating system. Fireplace in dining room reworked. Modern cooking crane.

D. Site:

1. House on rise faces south on Lowell Road, located deep in yard and approached by a black top drive and near a garage. A 17th century or 18th century barn is west of the house and garage.
2. Landscaping: Modern, of no historical importance. Well cared for.

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